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Redevelopment Board Minutes 03/24/2008

Arlington Redevelopment Board
Minutes of March 24, 2008

Members Present: Christopher Loreti
Andrew West
Roland Chaput
Bruce Fitzsimmons

Also Present: Kevin J. O'Brien

Andrew West called the meeting to order at 7:04 and opened the public hearing on the amendment to the special permit for Hawthorne Suites Hotel at 19 Massachusetts Avenue. Joseph Fonzo of Devine Signs explained that the hotel has been purchased by another company and they wished to change the name and change all the signs. The current signs are allowed by special permit and the proposed signs require an amendment to the permit. The Board asked questions to clarify the materials and better understand the drawings that were submitted. Andrew West indicated that he thought the proposed sign for the Mass. Ave. elevation was too large for the space on the building. Chris Loreti mentioned that he would encourage the hotel to turn the ground sign on the Mass. Ave. side of the building ninety degrees so it would show up better for motorists on Mass. Ave.

Roland Chaput moved that the proposed signs be approved if the wall sign on the Mass. Ave elevation were reduced to 80% of the proposed size and that turning the ground sign ninety degrees could be done at the applicants option. The applicant shall submit new drawings reflecting the changes to the Director of Planning for approval. Bruce Fitzsimmons seconded the motion and the Board voted 4 to 0 to approve.

Before continuing, Andrew West acknowledged the Board's concern for Ed Tsoi who suffered a stroke a few days earlier and expressed best wishes for his recovery. In light of Ed Tsoi's absence the Board postponed the remainder of its agenda to a later meeting. The Board had a short discussion of the latest draft of warrant articles and adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin J. O'Brien